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[024] Fig. 2 is a representation of the speed offset as a function of the output speed gradient according to the invention; and ◆◆

Fig. 3 is a flow diagram of the method of the present invention; and ◆◆

Fig. 4 is a flow diagram of an alternate embodiment of the present invention. ◆◆

[032] Alternatively, in a variant of the present invention as illustrated in Fig. 4, instead of a speed offset an absolute kick-down switching characteristic line can be used. ◆◆